Facts - Faces - Memories

WOMAN'S
MISSIONARY
SOCIETY

MRS. B. F. DAVIS,
Iowa City, Iowa, Organizer,
First Corresponding Secretary

MT. HOPE REFORMED
CHURCH
Where the Woman's Missionary
Society Was Organized

Facts · Faces · Memories

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

NORTH CAROLINA CLASSIS

Compiled by

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FOREWORD

And let it be when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, then thou shalt bestir thyself; for then shall the Lord go out before thee . . . . .
—II Samuel 5:24.

INSPIRATION

THE PIONEER ministers of the Reformed faith had planted the seed of Home Missions in the hearts of the women of North Carolina. As early as 1885, encouraged by such leaders as Dr. J. C. Clapp, Dr. P. M. Trexler, Dr. J. M. L. Lyerly, and others, many women were organizing as Aid or Congregational Societies, and were doing valiant service in their home churches. Corinth, Hickory, starting as a mission in 1860, seems to have been the first to organize for work in other lands. In other denominations, Women's Societies were already supporting missions at home and abroad. Many of our women were eager for a similar opportunity.

The picture of Rev. Ambrose D. Gring and wife, who in 1879 became the first missionaries sent abroad by the Reformed Church in the United States, came as a distinct inspiration. In many homes it was framed and placed upon a wall, a daily reminder of the Great Commission.

Then in 1887 came the booklet with the story and pictures of the Misses Poorbaugh and Miss Ault (Mrs. Hoy), who were going as missionaries to Japan. This was followed by the news of the organization of the Woman's Missionary Society of General Synod. This was the result of the efforts of Mrs. Elvira S. Yockey, who ten years before, at Xenia, Ohio, had bravely organized a strictly Woman's Missionary Society.

A constant inspirational breeze reached us in 1891. It came on the wings of the Woman's Journal which was edited and published by Rev. and Mrs. M. E. Whitmore.

Many of the ministers of North Carolina Classis were becoming aware of the possibilities for service that lay in women's organization and they were giving their hearty encouragement.

In 1894, Mrs. B. F. Davis, with her pastor husband, came to Concord. They were full of missionary zeal and were able to inspire others with the desire of working together. After several years of love, labor and longing, she began, in the spring of 1897, to send out personal letters to the scattered churches, urging that delegates be sent to the coming meeting of Classis. This was to be held at Mt. Hope, Guilford County, in the pastorate of Rev. J. D. Andrew.

ORGANIZATION

After working so zealously to bring about the meeting, Mrs. Davis, on account of the serious illness of her husband, was prevented from attending. (Mr. Davis' convalescence was very slow and the next year they returned north—she never having attended a meeting of the women whom she had organized and by whom she was so loved.) She sent in her place a consecrated and efficient leader in the person of Miss Mollie Fetzer of the Presbyterian Church. With representative women from the eastern, western, and central churches, a meeting was held Thursday, May 6, 1897, in the school rooms near Mt. Hope Church, in Guilford County. Here the Woman's Missionary Society of North Carolina Classis was organized. It was a small beginning, but back home other earnest women were waiting to take up the work. Mrs. J. D. Andrew, as wife of the pastor of the hostess church, with the members of Classis and the lady delegates staying May 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th, found it impossible to attend the meeting, but is claimed a charter member. By some inadvertence, several names of the delegates were lost from our printed minutes and, as far as possible, will be replaced. The minutes of this first meeting, giving names and proceedings, as written by Mrs. Alice Ingold Murrill (Mrs. Leroy Whitener), who served cheerfully and efficiently as Recording Secretary until called home, will be found in the following pages.

REALIZATION

The women and many pastors went back to their home churches and the organization of the women went forward. A great many congregations considered "Ladies' Aid" more suitable to their needs, and went on as such. Others sent delegates and any amount of money they chose, to the yearly meeting of the new Woman's Missionary Society. There were some which gave it their first allegiance. With the desire to interest all the women and have them join the Woman's Missionary Society, the new society pled for representatives from the Aid Societies, and from the Congregations where no societies existed. It took time to do this and to adjust the matter of membership. With so many irregularities and being so far from the stronger societies of the Reformed faith, it seemed better to go slowly and pay some amount to General Synod Society, without pledging complete affiliation.

Miss Ida Hedrick, first president, was enthusiastic for Foreign Missions. She was eager and trustful in her association with others, and, in her inexperience, was upheld by the loving council and co-operation of the members of the Society. As a teacher it was inconvenient to attend the meetings in the early spring, so after six years, Miss Hedrick reluctantly sent in her resignation.

Surely the "Lord went before," giving from this and other Classis, leaders and helpers with experience, ability, and loving patience.

The second president was Miss Frances Lippard George (1903-1904). She was in charge of Mission Bands, and was doing a great work. It seemed an irreparable loss that one so young, so capable and so enthusiastic, should be called away from her young husband and the work in which she was so needed. All through the years we need the loving words of One who said: "What I do, thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."

The third president was Mrs. C. C. Bost, daughter of Dr. Jeremiah Ingold. She was brought up in the Lord's work in her home church, (Corinth, Hickory). She kept in touch with General Synod Society, often going as delegate at her own expense. She served 12 years as president of the Woman'sMissionary Society of North Carolina Classis. She was Secretary of Temperance, General Synod Society, for six years, and served as President of Corinth Society at her home church for thirty-five years. She held other offices in North Carolina Classical and is now Historian. In her quiet, efficient way she led on toward a better understanding of General Synod Society, at the same time, keeping up the interests at home.

Mrs. L. A. Peeler, wife of Dr. L. A. Peeler, was the fourth President, and served for ten years in this capacity. As a bride she came from another Classis, bringing knowledge, experience, and a willingness to work. She understandingly adapted herself to the peculiar conditions existing in North Carolina Classis, and developed the work along all lines. She acted as Secretary of Literature and brought the Society to a high standard. When the first president was elected for a second six years, Mrs. Peeler, as Recording Secretary, generously carried her through. Mrs. Peeler served as President of Potomac Synodical for three years, its Recording Secretary for six years, and a departmental Secretary for many years. She was a member of the cabinet of the General Synod Society for three years.

PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Edgar Whitener of High Point, N. C., was elected President in 1929, and was re-elected in 1930, serving faithfully during her term of office. She had been active for many years as a member of the Society in High Point. She worked diligently for all causes of the Society during her term of office, but was particularly interested in Nazareth Orphan Home. She took a leading part in providing the Home with crockery, glass and silver, and later was active in providing for the building and equipping of a laundry for the Home; as a mark of appreciation the Board of Managers named in the "Nellie Whitener Laundry." Mrs. Whitener's interest in the work remains constant and she looks forward to many more years of active service for the Master.

Mrs. Wagoner, wife of Rev. C. C. Wagoner, had been rearing a family and quietly working in her husband's pastorates. She had kept up with the Woman's Missionary Society and held im-

portant offices therein. Now, she was chosen President, and with aptitude and great earnestness, took up the leadership. She served loyally and well, but was cramped and hindered by the increasing pains of arthritis, which made it impossible for her to accept the office again. Still, from her bed, she kept her place for many years as editor of the Woman's Column in Standard, and is still working in the church and Woman's Missionary Society.

At this time, Mrs. Lillie Misenheimer Causey, wife of Dr. W. H. Causey, had returned to the state. While away, she had served as President of Virginia Woman's Missionary Society (1916-1919); in Potomac Synodical as President (1918-1922); First Vice-President of same (1930-1933); as Secretary of Literature (1916-1918); and was a member of the cabinet of the Woman's Missionary Society, General Synod, 1918 to 1922. Having had such wide experience she was gladly welcomed as a new President in 1935. By her gracious guidance and inspiration the Woman's Missionary Society has reached a high standard of efficiency in activities and spirituality, has joined hands with the women of the Evangelical church and is pressing on—not disbanded, but united; not weakened, but strengthened; not completed, but enlarged.

Memory recalls many other loyal helpers whose names appear in this book of notes, appreciates the fact the wives and daughters of the Parsonage have been leaders through the years, holds sacred the admonitions of the ministers departed, cherishes the fellowship and support of those now with us, and lingers gratefully around the quiet workers in the home churches who, by prayer and service, undergirded the entire structure of the Woman's Missionary Society of North Carolina Classis.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF N. C. CLASSIS

By invitation of Rev. J. D. Andrew of Guilford Charge, and in response to stirring appeals sent out by Mrs. B. F. Davis of the Concord Church, a number of earnest women assembled in the school-rooms of Mt. Hope Church, at 1 o'clock P. M. Thursday, May 6th, 1897. By a dispensation of Providence, Mrs. Davis could not be present. Miss Fetzer of Concord, delegated by Mrs. Davis as her proxy, called the meeting to order. Devotions were conducted by Mrs. J. Ingle. By motion, Mrs. G. T. Crowell of Concord was called to the chair, and Mrs. Alice Ingold Murrill of Hickory was made Secretary, pro tem. Miss Fetzer explained the object of the meeting, and on motion, proceeded to organize a Woman's Classical Missionary Society of North Carolina Classis. Delegates were enrolled as follows:

Concord—Mrs. G. T. Crowell and Miss Frances Lippard; Hickory—Mesdames J. L. Murphy and Alice Ingold Murrill; Upper Davidson—Miss Mary Ida Hedrick; East Rowan—Mrs. W. H. McNairy; West Rowan—Mrs. J. P. Linn; Mt. Bethel Mission—Mrs. John Ingle; Guilford—Mrs. Jesse Welker Starr and Misses Mamie Clapp and Minnie Montgomery and Mrs. Fanny Lowe; Central Rowan—Miss Jennie McNairy; Thomasville—Mrs. Clarence Clapp; Miss Eulala Darr—A visitor from the Lutheran Church.

The Constitution of W. M. S. of General Synod was adopted by articles, and as a whole. The Motto: *"Out of the Darkness into the light, Through the Blood of Christ,"* was also adopted.

The following were nominated, and declared the officers for one year: President, Miss Ida Hedrick; Vice-President, Mrs. J. L. Murphy; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Alice Ingold Murrill; Treasurer, Miss Mamie Clapp; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. B. F. Davis. Miss Hedrick, in a few heart-chosen words, deeply touching in their humility and consecrated courage, accepted the Chair, and commended the officers and their work to the prayers and co-operation of the members. A season of silent prayer, closed by Mrs. Ingle, followed. At this point, Rev. Bro. Stubblebine came in with greetings from Classis, and assurance of hearty approval, responded to by the following. "Resolved, that we, the members of the W. C. M. S. respectfully ask Classis to co-operate with us in organizing Congregational Missionary Societies and Mission Bands in charges where they do not exist. Also, that we ask for their prayers that God will enable us to serve Him in such a way as to bring honor to His name, and souls into His kingdom."

The President urged the importance of organizing W. C. M. S. Mrs. Murrill presented the claims of the Woman's Journal, as the Organ of Synodical, Classis, and Congregational M. S.

Miss Lippard urged the organizing of Mission Bands, giving a concise and interesting account of her own work among the children. Mrs. Ingle read an earnest, thrilling paper on Child Training, and the work done in her neighborhood by Mother's Meetings. Adjourned to 10 A. M. Thursday.

The Woman's Meeting announced by the program of Classis, was opened at 8 P. M., Miss Hedrick presiding. The following program was given:

I. Organ Voluntary—Miss Frances Lippard.
II. Scripture—Miss Hedrick; Prayer—Dr. J. C. Clapp.
III. Music—"Send Out the Light." Choir
IV. Address of Welcome—Mrs. Jessie Welker Starr.
V. Response—Mrs. Alice Ingold Murrill.
VI. Solo—"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"—Mrs. Murphy.
VII. Paper—Mrs. B. F. Davis.
VIII. Paper—Miss Hedrick.
IX. Music—Choir.
X. Recitation—"Sweet Messenger of Heaven," Mrs. J. P. Linn.
XI. Solo—"The Holy City." Mrs. Murphy.
XII. Reading—Miss Lippard.
XIII. Paper—Mrs. Ingle.
XIV. Invitation to Brothers of the Classis to speak.
XV. Collection—Bro. Murphy.
XVI. Benediction—Bro. A. H. Smith.

MISS IDA HEDRICK,
Lexington, First President
1897-1903; 1915-1921

MISS FRANCES LIPPARD,
Concord, President 1903-1904

The audience was large and interested; the collection amounted to $7.07. Friday 10 A. M., Devotional exercises by the President, Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

A committee was appointed to forward to our Mrs. Davis a message, Psalm 99—6—latter clause, with expression of kindest sympathy, and regret that she could not be with us.

By motion, Classis was asked to accept $4 from our Treasury, to be applied, $2 to Mt. Bethel Mission, and $2 to Salisbury Mission. The following was added to the Constitution, as by-law No. 2. The Treasurer shall pay out money only on order of the President and Corresponding Sec.

Committee on Resolutions reported as follows:

RESOLVED, That we extend sincere thanks to the members of Mt. Hope Reformed Congregation for the hospitality of their homes so freely and so cordially opened to us, That we will always remember our stay with them with pleasure and affection, and pray that God will richly bless them in heart and home, in basket and in store.

RESOLVED, That an account of our meetings be given to the Corinthian, and to the Woman's Journal for publication. Alice Ingold Murrill, Mary A. Ingle, Frances Lippard, committee.

An interesting letter, sent by Mrs. Whitener to the Concord W. M. S. was read by Mrs. Crowell.

Adjourned to meet at time and place of the next Annual meeting of N. C. Classis.

Saturday, 10 A. M., Called Meeting. Devotional Exercises by Miss Fetzer. Classis having given permission to have the proceedings of our meeting published under cover with their Minutes, the Secretary was directed to prepare them, the expense to be defrayed by our Treasurer. A W. M. S. for Mt. Hope congregation was then organized, President, Mrs. Jessie Welker Starr; Secretary, Miss Elma Woods. An appointment was made for one o'clock when Miss Lippard would organize a Mission Band. Adjourned to time of regular meeting. Respectfully Submitted,

Alice Ingold Murrill, Rec. Sec.

1898 - 1899

Delegates representing 9 locals, with a membership of 148 members, were present at the second meeting of the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis. The meeting was held along with the meeting of Classis which was meeting this year at Grace Church, Newton, May 1898. Through the kindness of Mrs. McCorkle, the business meetings were held in her parlor. The executive meeting was held in the home of Mrs. J. C. Clapp.

A resolution was adopted that in congregations where an organized society was impracticable, any woman could become a member at large by paying fifty cents annually. Further, any

woman could become a life member of the Classical by the payment of $5.00. Mrs. Davis sent some challenges as to life members. Madames Davis,Whitener and Misses Hedrick, Fetzer, Everhart, Lippard and Moose became Life Members of the Classical Society by the payment of $5.00 each.

Mrs. Frances Lippard George made an earnest appeal for a Mission Band for the children, to be organized in each congregation. Thus at this early date the Mission Band in North Carolina Classis took root. Mrs. George was made Supt. of Mission Band Work.

Mrs. Alice Ingol Murrill Whitener made a plea for the "Woman's Journal," the official organ of the W. M. S. of G. S. Two subscriptions were received for this magazine.

A summary of this year's work was:
Societies—9 with 148 members.
Mission Bands—3 with 60 members.
Money in the treasury—$67.33.

The Society decided that three-fifths of all moneys be given to the Girls' School at Sendai, Japan, two-fifths go to a Church Building Fund for Home Missions.

One resolution offered by the executive committee seems worthy of note in this sketch. "That the aim and purpose of the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis is to arouse our women to greater activity in religious and missionary work, and by concentration of effort to increase their usefulness in saving souls and extending God's Kingdom on Earth."

The minutes were printed under cover of the minutes of Classis.

Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad, president presiding.

The following were elected to serve as officers:

President—Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad; Vice-President—Mrs. J. L. Murphy; Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Frances Lippard George; Recording Secretary—Mrs. Alice Ingold Murrill Whitener; Treasurer—Miss Mamie Clapp.

1899-1900

In the quaint historic Grace (Lower Stone) Church, Rowan County, East Rowan Charge, the W. S. M. of N. C. Classis met in annual session May 3, 1899.

At this meeting our Foreign Mission work took deep root. A motion that enough money be raised to support a girl for one year at Sendai. Another motion decided to loan the moneys sent in for the church building fund as soon as the amount reached $50.00.

As in all new undertakings some of the societies that reported last year had become indifferent and did not report. To counteract this indifference among the old societies, new and interesting faces were seen. This fact encouraged the leaders.

The summary of the report reads as follows: Societies represented—8, with a membership of 131. Honorary members—17. The treasurer reported $25.00 from Mission Bands, $106.85 in treasury after all expenses were paid.

St. Luke's society, Central Rowan Charge, joined the ranks and sent in a contribution of $42.50.

The only change in officers was the election of Mrs. G. T. Crowell, Vice President instead of Mrs. J. L. Murphy.

1900-1901

The meeting for the year 1900 was held at Beulah Church, Upper Davidson Charge. Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad, president, ably presided. The business meetings were held in the parlor of Mrs. L. Everhart.

The societies of Calvary and Heidelberg, under the leadership of Mrs. J. N. Faust became more active during this year. Mrs. J. D. Andrews brought a verbal report from first Burlington which had just been organized.

"Our Girl in Japan" had taken fast hold of our hearts and it was decided to assume her support for two years.

It was voted to loan the Church Building Fund at 2½% if desired for church building purposes.

Four Mission Bands were enrolled, two of which sent reports and money. These two were Trinity, Concord and Pilgrim. A report of the treasurer was as follows:

For the Girl in Japan—$58.20.

Church Building Fund—$97.24.

Foreign Missions—$64.82.

Reserved for expenses—$15.00.

The following resolution shows the attitude of the society.

Resolved, That we the members of the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis do urge the Auxiliary Societies to take an active interest in the mission work which is to go on in China under the direction of Dr. Hoy.

Signed: Elsie Reidesel, Flora Andrews and Mollie Crowell.

Many plans for enlarging the work was discussed at this meeting. All officers were re-elected for another year.

1901 - 1902

The Fifth annual sessions of the W. M. S. convened in Shiloh Church, Faith, Rowan County in 1901. The society was still meeting at the same time as the men's meeting. The business meetings were held in the parlor of Mrs. P. A. Peeler. In the absence of the president the vice-president, Mrs. G. T. Crowell presided.

As most of the local organizations were Aid and Missionary, many of the women continued to give most of their money to home objectives, beautifying churches, building parsonages, etc.

Rev. J. C. Leonard asked the society for aid in building a church at High Point, a plea from Burlington Mission, and aid for Mr. Bethel. Ten dollars were given to each of these places.

An effort was made to get Miss Zurfluh, a foreign missionary, to visit points in North Carolina in order to stimulate interest in foreign mission work.

The treasurer reported the amount of $123.45 in hand. The only change in officers was Mrs. Stauffer, elected treasurer. Reporters for the papers were appointed. As heretofore, the minutes were to be printed under cover of the minutes of classis.

1902 - 1903

The 1902 annual meeting was held in Daniel's Church, South Fork Charge. Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad, president, presided.

A motion was made and carried that the Society defray the traveling expenses of the officers presiding at the meeting.

An appeal for help came from Ursinus Church, Rockwell. $10.00 was given to Ursinus and the same amount was given to the Lenoir Mission.

The idea of having the meeting some other time rather than at the same time of the meeting of classis was discussed, but no decision was reached.

A contribution of $70 00 was given to the Girls' School in Sendai. $9.00 were given to the Board of Home Missions. $6.00 were reserved for the printing of minutes.

Two new mission bands were enrolled, Corinth Hickory and 1st. Burlington. One W. M. S. was enrolled, Ursinus, Rockwell. The business sessions of this meeting were held in the Lutheran Church which stands near by Daniel's Reformed Church.

Each year after the year of organization there were members who paid fifty cents for the ensuing year. Perhaps, these names will be interesting to many of the present members. 1899—Miss Mamie Clapp, Mrs. G. T. Crowell; 1900—Mrs. Willis,, Mrs. Mamie McNairy Blackwelder and Miss Minnie Montgomery; 1901—Mrs. Mable Welker Coble; 1902—Mrs. C. C. Bost and Mrs. K. C. Menzies.

In this year, the first elected delegates to General Synod and to the Potomac Synod, meeting in Salisbury. Mrs. C. C. Bost and Mrs. K. C. Menzies were elected to represent this body at General Synod, while Mrs. Alice Ingold Murrill Whitener and Mrs. Frances Lippard George represented this body at Potomac Synod.

Invitation to meet at Corinth Hickory in 1903 one day before classis was accepted.

1903 - 1904

In the absence of both president and vice-president the seventh annual meeting of W. M. S. of N. C. Classis, held in Corinth Church, Hickory, April 29, 1903, was opened by the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Frances Lippard George.

MRS. C. C. BOST,
Hickory, President 1904-1915;
1928-1929

MRS. L. A. PEELER,
Staunton, Va , President 1921-1928; 1932-1935

MRS. H. S. BARRIER,
Concord, Vice President 1935

MISS ADDIE BARRIER,
Concord

MRS. G. T. CROWELL,
Concord, Treasurer 1901-1938

MISS MILDRED O. SUTHER,
Concord, Treasurer 1938—

Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad, who for a number of years had been busy with graded school work sent in her resignation as president. This was accepted with much regret, and Mrs. Frances Lippard George was chosen president. Mrs. C. C. Bost, vice-president and Mrs. Daisy Fisher Patterson, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Alice Ingold Murrill Whitener, recording secretary, and Mrs. G. T. Crowell, treasurer.

A letter from Miss Annie M. Blessing, president of W. M. S. of Zion's Classis, urged the importance of the classical societies within the bounds of Potomac Synod, to organize a Synodical Society. Whereupon Mrs. C. C. Bost gave an interesting report of her attendance of General Synod and said the importance of having a Synodical Society could not be overestimated. As Potomac Synod was meeting in Salisbury, it was decided to invite the delegates of the other classicals to meet there. In case this arrangement could not be effected Mrs. Frances Lippard George was to represent the W. M. S. of N. C. Classical at Pen Mar. The corresponding secretary was instructed to invite Miss Blessing for such an organization.

The commission on finance reported $133.00 on hand. $2.50 was sent to Mission Band helper as requested by General Synod. $10.00 to church in Concord. $25.00 to China and $50.00 to Japan.

Commission on literature reported that ten copies of the "Woman's Journal" and thirty copies of "Mission Band Helper" were taken in the classis.

The next annual meeting was to be held at High Point.

1904 - 1905

After much agitation Bethany Church, Crescent, August 8, 1904, was selected as the time and place of the eighth annual meeting of the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis. Since it was not convenient to meet at High Point at the same time of the meeting of Classis, it was definitely decided to break away from Classis.

In the absence of the President, Mrs. C. C. Bost, Vice-President, presided.

It was decided to sustain a column in "The Corinthian" and to make it the means of communication and also to strive to increase its circulation.

One new W. M. S. was enrolled. This was at Trinity, Conover with 8 members. Through the untiring efforts of Mrs. Frances Lippard George the Mission Bands were coming into their own. Those reporting this year were: Bethany, Crescent 24 members; Trinity, Concord 20 members; Corinth, Hickory 23 members; St. Luke's, Salisbury 20 members and St. James, Mr. Pleasant 31 members.

The money received this year was apportioned as follows: To Faith Mission $5.00, High Point $5.00, Greensboro $10.00, Lenoir $10.00, Mission Band Helper $2.50, Girl's School, Sendai, Japan $50.00, China $25.00. After these amounts were paid out, the expense of the meeting taken care of, there was a balance in the

treasury of $135.66. The treasurer was instructed to loan this money.

Election of officers were as follows: President, Mrs. C. C. Bost. Vice-President, Mrs. J. M. L. Lyerly. The other officers were re-elected.

1905 - 1906

The meeting in Trinity Church, Concord in 1905 was a memorable one in that Mrs. William Hoy, who had so long been a foreign missionary was present. She appeared in native Chinese costume and brought many objects of interest. In her quiet earnest manner she brought into closer contact the workers at home and those in the foreign field.

Mrs. Frances Lippard George, a most earnest advocate of Mission Bands was appointed Supt. of Mission Band Work in the state. Another indication that the field was widening was the fact that the secretary was asked to send statistics each year to the Statistical Secretary of W. M. S. of G. S.

Delegates from 1st Greensboro, St. James, Mt. Pleasant, Beulah, Upper Davidson Charge and Zion, Lenoir were among the new faces seen at this meeting. While a few new locals were organizing each year, it was a matter of regret that in 52 congregations in the N. C. Classis there should be only 16 Missionary Societies.

The amount of money in the treasury was $125.75.

The meeting was ably presided over by the President, Mrs. C. C. Bost.

1906 - 1907

The 1906 meeting was held in Corinth, Hickory. Mrs. C. C. Bost, President, presided. All officers of the preceeding year were re-elected.

The delegates were asked to report all moneys raised by the societies. These totals were interesting, but as many of the societies were still Aid and Missionary, a large portion of the amount raised was kept in the home church. The officers felt in time our women would broaden out and give more of the amount raised to missions.

"The Corinthian" had now become "The Reformed Church Standard". Dr. J. L. Murphy, editor, generously offered to publish the minutes in this paper as he had done the previous years in the Corinthian. This offer was gratefully accepted.

There was a slight gain over last year's figures. 17 W. M. S. reported with a membership of 318. Five Mission Bands with a membership of 133.

At this meeting a contribution of $25.00 was made to the Nazareth Orphan Home. This was the first contribution from the W. M. S. made to this institution which was built and maintained by the Reformed Church in North Carolina.

1907 - 1908

From the western section of the state (Hickory) this earnest band of women went to the eastern district (Greensboro) for their 1907 meeting.

For ten years the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis had functioned in the different sections of the state where ever the Reformed Church had been established.

A summary of the year's work will give some idea of its growth. Number of societies reported 18, number of members 267. Contributions made $146.25. Mission Bands reported 5, with a membership of 118. Contributions made by Mission Bands this year were $56.36.

A committee on organizations, having been appointed the preceeding year, reported four new societies ready to enlist, Bethel, Grace, Mt. Hope and Daniels, all in Catawba County. These were organized through the efforts of Mrs. S. W. Back, the present pastor's wife. Just here, we think, would be a splendid time to pay a well deserved tribute to all pastor's wives for their deep interest and splendid leadership in the missionary society. All down through the years many locals have been organized and nutured by the busy pastor's wife.

Much of the money raised during the year was used for congregational purposes. A close check up by the corresponding secretary showed that the entire amount raised by 18 societies for the year 1907 was $1,237.00.

After giving ten dollars each to 1st Greensboro, the Mission at Spencer and Nazareth Orphan Home, $60.00 was sent to General Synodical Society. This was the first amount given to W. M. S. of G. S. by N. C. Classical. Thus another step was made toward becoming a member of General Synod Society.

Miss Mary Abbot, first matron of Nazareth Orphan Home, with some of the children from the home, made their first appearance before the society. Delegates were urged to keep the needs of the Home before their members and be encouraged to send boxes of clothing, produce, etc. to the Home.

1908 - 1909

Ursinus Church, Rockwell opened wide its doors to the W. M. S. in 1908. Mrs. C. C. Bost, president, ably presided.

The officers and delegates attending were optimistic though the committee on organization reported little accomplished during the year.

There were seventeen W. M. S. locals with 318 members. Six Mission Bands with 133 members. Amount of money sent to Classical Treasurer was $150.00. After ten years of existence the money raised by the women was nearly all used at home. The Society was still working, waiting and watching for the time to come when the women would awake to its usefulness and to the latent power held in their own congregations.

The Church Building Fund which was always remembered by

our efficient Treasurer, Mrs. G. T. Crowell, amounted to $248.00.

An encouraging feature was a gift of $7.00 from First Church, Lexington.

Appeals from Rev. Shuford Peeler for First Greensboro mission and Rev. D. E. Bowers for the Waughtown Church. $7.00 was given to Greensboro and $25.00 was given to Waughtown.

The old officers were re-elected.

1909 - 1910

The thirteenth annual meeting was held in Heidelburg Reformed Church, Thomasville, N. C., Mrs. C. C. Bost, president, presided.

Roll call found every officer present, 20 delegates, 16 visitors and 8 or 10 ministers. All the old officers were re-elected.

In order to get a better knowledge of what the women were really doing in their locals, the President ventured to ask that all societies keep an accurate account of all money raised and expended and report at next meeting. A resolution asked all locals to add a missionary feature and send a contribution — even if small — to the Classical Society.

Amount of money paid into the Treasury this year was $160.00. The disbursement was as follows: To Foreign Missions—$75.00, Woman's Journal—$10.00, Waughtown—$25.00, High Point—$5.00, Greensboro—$5.00, Mission Band Helper—$2.50, Officers expenses—$14.00, Church Building Fund—$23.40.

The society was very grateful for the visiting ministers who attended the meeting, they always gave help and encouragement. In 1907 the ministers paid fifty cents per year to be honorary members. It was decided to select one minister as a speaker at the annual meeting. This custom prevailed for a number of years.

1910 - 1911

St. James Church, Mt. Pleasant, during the pastorate of Rev. A. Shulenberger, was host to the W. M. S. in 1910. Mrs. C. C. Bost, president, presided. At the election of officers all old ones were re-elected.

Mrs. W. H. Causey and Miss Addie Barrier had prepared and exhibited some excellent maps of China and Japan, bordered with pictures of the missionaries, churches, schools and other things pertaining to our work in these countries.

"The Outlook of Missions", successor to the "Woman's Journal", made its first appearance and copies were distributed.

Reports showed 16 societies had raised $922.11, 7 Mission Bands raised $46.14; out of this amount $178.98 was sent to the Classical Society. The appeals were met in the usual way. The Church Building Fund now amounted to $303.40.

The trial blanks that were used to secure the reports this year were approved and it was ordered that 500 copies be printed.

It was resolved that each Society be called an Aid and Missionary Society and that they be urged to send a contribution to the Classical Society each year.

MRS. EDGAR WHITENER,
High Point, President 1929-1931

MRS. C. C. WAGONER,
Lexington, President 1931-1932

1911 - 1912

The 15th. annual meeting at Corinth Church, Hickory, showed little change in officers and plan of work. Mrs. M. A. Foil succeeded Mrs. G. T. Crowell as treasurer. Special thanks were rendered her for efficient work and many years of service as treasurer. Mrs. Daisy Fisher Patterson took the place of Miss Addie Barrier as Corresponding Secretary. All other officers were re-elected.

Rev. W. W. Rowe offered one column of each number of The Standard for the use of the Society. Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad was elected editor. Locals were urged to send items of interest to the editor.

The apportionment committee made the following distribution of moneys: To Home and Foreign Missions—$75.00, Mission Band Helper—$2.50, Lincolnton Mission—$25.00, Second High Point Mission—$10.00, Orphan Home—$15.00, the remainder to Church Building Fund.

The President, Mrs. Bost, had attended many of the meetings, as a delegate, of the higher organizations and was convinced in her own mind that the N. C. Classical should join the other societies of General Synod in working by specified rules for certain goals as planned by General Synod. The society was slow to take this step.

1912 - 1913

From Hickory which is near the mountains of Western North Carolina, to Burlington, far to the east, went the W. M. S. to hold its sixteenth annual meeting.

Mrs. Frances Lippard George, a most earnest and capable leader—a special advocate of Mission Band—had been called to her eternal home.

The Society keenly realized the great loss it had sustained. Suitable resolutions were adopted.

Mrs. Lee A. Peeler was enrolled as a delegate from First, High Point. (Her husband being pastor of that church). Looking back, it can be seen that when the Society lost the loyal worker, Mrs. George, the Master himself sent another earnest soul, Mrs. Peeler to fill the breach. A person who was destined to become an earnest and conscientious leader to our struggling band of Reformed women.

Mrs. W. H. Causey, secretary of Literature, gave an inspiring talk, urging the appointment of a Secretary of Literature in each local. Dr. Allen Bartholomew asked for more subscribers to the Outlook of Missions. Mrs. Daisy Fisher Patterson was continued in charge of Young Peoples Work. She urged that a Treasury. Zion, Lenoir, Mrs. C. D. Rabb, president, sent in ganized in each congregation.

The locals were urged to send more money to the Classical Treasurer. Further, if any money sent direct to Home or For-

eign Mission Board, that this money go through the Classical Treasury.

Mrs. G. T. Crowell offered a prize of $3.00 to the society that, during the year, sent most money through the Classical Treasury. Zion, Lenoir, Mrs. C. D. Rabb, president, sent in $193.22 and received the prize.

As a result of the above urge $1.878.63 was raised during the year. 17 societies with a membership of 411 members, sent to Classical Society $219.00, largest amount in history of organization. 10 Mission Bands with 273 members, amount raised—$162.48. Disbursements were as follows: For Missions—$85.00. Lincolnton—$60.00. High Point—$50.00. Orphanage—$40.00.

All old officers were re-elected.

1913 - 1914

At Zion Church, Lenoir, a loyal band of Reformed people prepared to welcome the 17th. annual convention of the W. M. S.

Of special interest was the attendance at this meeting of Mrs. Gertrude Cogan Lyon, Field Secretary of General Synod. She urged the N. C. Classical Society to link up with General Synodical. As a result the society took action to pay one-half the expenses of two delegates to General Synod at York, Pa.

Twenty W. M. S. Societies and ten Mission Bands were reported. The treasurer reported $282.60 received. The whole amount raised for all purposes during the year was $2.002.21.

Disbursements were made as follows: To General Synod—$100.00. Nazareth Orphan Home—$45.00. Emanuel, Lincolnton—$45.00, and Church Building Fund—$93.00.

67 subscribers to the Outlook of Missions was reported.

Madams J. L. Murphy and M. A. Foil added much to the meeting by their clear sweet singing.

The only change in officers was Mrs. J. T. Hedrick succeeding Mrs. Daisy Fisher Patterson as Corresponding Secretary.

1914 - 1915

The opening session of the 18th. annual meeting of the W. M. S. was held in Bethel Church, High Point, July 29th. The second day's session was held at First Church, High Point. All old officers were re-elected except the Recording Secretary. Mrs. Alice Ingold Murrill Whitener, the very faithful and efficient Recording Secretary since the organization, was unable to attend because of illness. She was elected honorary Secretary, while Mrs. Lee A. Peeler was chosen as active Secretary.

Mrs. William Seiple of Sendai, Japan, attended the meeting and her portrayals of conditions in Japan were intensely interesting.

Mrs. C. C. Bost, President, and Mrs. L. A. Peeler had attended the General Synodical as delegates. They agreed that the time had come for N. C. Classical to fall in line with the principles of General Synod. The following resolution was offered by the Executive Board. Resolved: "That this Society fall

in line as an active part of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of General Synod to the extent that we send all money contributed by this society direct to the General Synodical Society, and that we commend the mission points in our Classis and Orphan Home as objects of special donations."

After the resolution was adopted, the budget handed down by W. M. S. of G. S. for the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis and Mission Band was accepted.

Since so many of the societies were Aid and Missionary, it was left up to the discretion of each society on what per cent of their members they could pay the above apportionment. Thus like all progressive steps it was attended by many minor hinderances.

A Thank Offering department was added to the organization. Mrs. Welker Coble was elected first Thank Offering Secretary.

The Mission Band of Bethany, Crescent was adjudged the most active during the year, and received the banner given by Mrs. G. T. Crowell for the encouragement of the children.

1915 - 1916

After 16 years the W. M. S. convened once more at Grace Church (Lower Stone). The election of officers were as follows: President, Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad; Vice-President, Mrs. C. C. Bost; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Lee A. Peeler; Mrs. J. T. Hedrick, Corresponding Secretary, being ill, Mrs. J. C. Leonard filled her place.

It developed that the per capita dues of $1.80 was paid for 139 members while the number reported as belonging to these Aid and Missionary Societies was 463. There were 23 societies reported this year, and 8 Mission Bands.

Mrs. Coble, T. O. Secretary could not be present, but reported only a few societies ordered Thank Offering Boxes through her department.

Mrs. D. B. Schnader of Sendai, Japan was a guest speaker. She presented the needs of the work in Japan, especially the Orphanage, in such an impressive manner that the sum of $60.00 was immediately pledged on the floor of the convention. This amount was raised yearly for five years or until the children were old enough to be self supporting.

At this meeting a memorial hour was held in honor of the faithful and much loved Recording Secretary, Mrs. Alice Ingold Murrill Whitener and Mrs. H. A. Welker, wife of the Pastor of the convention church. There was a pause in the day's work while their earnest and loving service was recalled.

1916 - 1917

July 26th. and 27th., 1916 found the Convention meeting in Greensboro with all officers present. Miss Rebecca Messimer of Shenchowfu, China, was glady welcomed and presented in a realistic way her work in China.

Mrs. C. C. Best was made the first Life Member of General Synodical from N. C. Classis. This honor was bestowed upon Mrs. Best because of the faithful and untiring effort of the W. M. S. of N. C. Classical.

There was still a great task before the Society in getting the members to accept and assume the obligation of the budget as handed down by General Synod. The Societies were again urged to pay the $1.80 per capita for just as many members as possible.

An interesting round table discussion on Mission Study Classes was ably led by Mrs. C. C. Wagoner. Six Mission Study Classes were conducted within the bounds of the N. C. Classical during the year.

Mrs. A. G. Dixon, a prominent missionary worker of the Protestant Methodist Church attended the Convention and delivered a most impressive address on the first part of John 3:16—*"God so loved, that He gave."*

A summary of the year showed that 24 Societies and 10 Mission Bands reported and very slowly but surely a little more money was finding its way into the Classical Treasury.

1917 - 1918

The 21st. annual meeting was held in Trinity Church, Concord, July, 1917. Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad, President, ably presiding. All officers were present and all were re-elected for another year.

This meeting was remarkable for the number of departmental secretaries reporting. Mrs. Mable Welker Coble, T. O. Secretary, reported 6 Societies had sent in a Thank Offering amounting to $77.62. Mrs. Zeckial, Secretary of Young People's work reported many letters written concerning Young People's organizations with few replies. Mrs. Edgar Whitener, Secretary of Literature made an interesting report. A number of Mission Study books were used. 82 subscribers to the Outlook of Missions and 35 Calendars were used.

The Society made another forward step when an overture was adopted to be presented to the Classis of N. C., asking that a committee be appointed by the Classis to act with a similar commission from the W. M. S. to arrange for a Summer Missionary Conference to be held within the bounds of N. C. Classis. This overture met with favorable action by the Classis and the first Missionary Conference was planned to be held at Catawba College, Newton, N. C., in 1918. (This college was moved to Salisbury, N. C. in 1923.)

A new constitution was adopted which brought the Society in full line with General Synod. Locals were asked to pay $1.80 per member for all the members reported. Each Society was asked to pay $2.00 per year contingent, each Mission Band asked to pay $1.00 contingent. As a result of this new set up the following local units were first to pay the $1.80 for all members: Bethel, (Bear Creek) Corinth, Hickory; Mt. Zion, China Grove; St. James, Mt. Pleasant and First, Burlington.

1918 - 1919

In July, 1918, Grace Church, Newton, again opened its doors to the annual Classical Convention. The second meeting of the organization was held here in 1898. Mrs. C. C. Bost, President, presided.

Time had wrought many changes. Many who were present at the earlier meeting were here no more in person. On the other hand, many new and interesting faces were seen.

To avoid confusion the convention asked the local societies and the Mission Bands not to report all moneys raised and used for congregational purposes. This was a repeal of a request made in 1906.

Slowly, but surely the amount of money coming into the Classical Treasury was increasing. This year $543.20, besides a contingent of $22.00 was handled by the treasurer. The departmental secretaries were also reporting larger gains. The secretary of Literature reported 104 subscribers to Outlook of Missions. The Secretary of T. O. reported receiving $196.02. Secretary of Life Members reported five life memberships. Secretary of Young Woman's work reported one organization at Faith Church, Brookford with 19 members.

Intemperance and Sabbath desecration was discussed and plans were made for awakening the women of the church to these evils and to use their power in suppressing them.

Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Rupp and J. S. Wise of the Home Mission Board were interested visitors.

Miss Carrie Hornaday and Mrs. Ollie Clive Hicks, young people, read interesting and helpful papers. These were requested to be published in the Outlook of Missions.

All moneys were asked to be sent in quarterly to Classical Treasurer.

Only one change in officers was made. Mrs. G. T. Crowell succeeded Mrs. M. A. Foil as treasurer.

1919 - 1920

At the request of the W. M. S. of G. S. the time of the annual meeting was changed from July to April 1st. Lexington was chosen as the place for the 23rd convention 1919.

This was an outstanding meeting from the fact that the only two N. C. Foreign Missionaries sent out by the N. C. Classis, were presented to the convention. Rev. Frank L. Fesperman and his fiance, Miss Maye Fisher, were to go to Japan. Rev. Sterling Whitener was to represent our church in China. These missionary families receive a Christmas gift of money each year from the members of the N. C. Classical Society. Mother's Day Cards are also sent to these friends of ours who labor under difficult conditions in foreign fields.

Rev. Ward Hartman, the guest speaker, by his presence and addresses added much to the spiritual depth of the meeting.

The work of the departmental secretaries had been very much hindered by the terrible epidemic of influenza that was sweeping the country in the year 1918.

The first missionary conference had been held at Catawba College, Newton. July, 1918. Mrs. Ollie Cline Hicks gave an interesting account of this conference and the idea of a larger and better one was taking hold of many minds.

In 1919 the first Missionary Institute was held in Salisbury. This first meeting was such a success that a resolution called for another Institute at the same place in the fall.

1920 - 1921

The 24th. annual session of the N. C. Classical was held in the Mt. Zion Church, China Grove and 1st., Landis, April 7 and 8. Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad, president; Mrs. C. C. Bost, vice-president. Mrs. Bost presided in the absence of the president.

Miss Carrie M. Kersechner, Ex. Sec. of Gen. Synod Society, was present and added much to the meeting by her first hand information from G. S.

Action was taken to have the minutes printed in pamphlet form. This copy was to include the Constitution and a copy of "A Service Song"—Tune, Webb, written by Mrs. C. C. Bost.

Mrs. J. T. Plott, secretary of T. O. reported 26 societies used the boxes. Total T. O. $966.32, an increase of 58 per cent. over last year.

Secretary of Literature, Mrs. J. R. McNairy, reported an increase of 20 subscribers to the Outlook of Missions. 295 Prayer Calendars and 14 Mission Study Classes. Secretary of Life Members and Members in Memoriam, Mrs. J. C. Leonard reported a secretary appointed in each local. Mrs. W. B. Werner, matron of Nazareth Orphan Home, presented the needs of the Home.

Letters from Mrs. B. D. Schneider and Mrs. Frank L. Fesperman were read and pledges amounting to $395.00 were taken. This was to be divided between Mrs. Schneider for North Japan College and Mrs. Fesperman for kindergarten building in Yamagata.

It was recommended that headed stationery be printed for use of officers and secretaries. The Society heartily endorsed the forward movement. Plans were made for an institute to be held in Salisbury in the fall.

1921 - 1922

"Out of darkness into light through the blood of Jesus Christ". This was the motto chosen by the women of the Society at its inception. On the front of the program of the 25th. anniversary meeting at Emanuel, Lincolnton, April 6-8, 1921, this motto appeared.

The 25th. anniversary service was held on the evening of April 6th. Mesdames W. M. McNairy, (deceased), J. P. Linn, Clarence Clapp, J. L. Murphy, and G. T. Crowell, (deceased) who were present at the first meeting were privileged to attend. Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad was prevented from attending because of a sick sister.

Miss Mary E. Myers, a return missionary from China, was

a help and inspiration to this meeting.

It was found that only $15.00 was lacking to pay budget in full for all members reported. Mrs. C. C. Wagoner challenged the convention to raise this. In a few minutes $20.00 was raised. The convention sang, "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" as an expression of thanks.

Reports of the various departmental secretaries showed progress made during the year. Outstanding was the report of Life Members and Members in Memoriam. Mrs. J. C. Leonard, secretary, 6 Life Members of the W. M. S. of N. C.; and 2 Life Members of W. M. S. of General Synod.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. L. A. Peeler, president; Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad, vice-president; Mrs. C. C. Bost, recording secretary; Mrs. C. H. Geitner, corresponding secretary and Mrs. G. T. Crowell, treasurer.

1922 - 1923

The annual meeting of the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis convened at Heidelberg Church, Thomasville, N. C., April 5-7, 1922. Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, president, presided.

Visitors and interesting speakers were Mrs. B. B. Krammes, president of W. M. S. of G. S. and Mrs. W. G. Seiple, returned missionary from Japan.

Departmental secretaries showed progress. Mrs. W. W. Rowe, secretary of Young Woman's Missionary Auxiliary reported 8 organizations with an enrollment of 115 young women; total contributions for the year $231.40.

The greatest need at present seemed to be the lack of conscientious leaders for the Y. W. M. Auxiliary and Mission Band. The president urged attendance to the Summer Missionary Conference and the Missionary Institutes in order to prepare for leadership for the Youth of our Church.

It was decided to have three Institutes instead of one. One in each of the three defined sections of our State. It was further decided that a contingent fee of $5.00 from each W. M. S. be paid to the Classical Society. This together with the full budget be paid before any other contribution was made by the society. That Article 3, section 6 of Constitution be amended to read thus: "The length of time that officers may succeed themselves shall be, president—6 years; vice-president—6 years; corresponding and statistical secretary—6 years; recording secretary—6 years, and the treasurer shall be allowed to succeed herself indefinitely."

1923 - 1924

At the 27th. annual meeting held in Salisbury, the president said: "In all phases of our work there was an increase." The missionary conference had been more largely attended and three successful institutes were held in the bounds of Classis. The Thank Offering showed an increase of $337.39 over last year and each society, even with an increased contingent fee, cheerfully paid its pro rata to the budget. 11 Mission Bands had been or-

ganized. 3 W. M. S. and 3 Young Woman's Missionary Auxiliaries.

The president of General Synod Society requested that a secretary of Stewardship be appointed in our state organization.

One encouraging feature of this meeting was the presence and help of so many young people in attendance.

Miss Minerva Weil, a return Missionary to China, was a guest at this meeting. She spoke interestingly of her work in China. Another guest speaker was Miss Clara Cox of High Point, a noted worker of the Friend's Church. She gave an interesting address on "Welfare Work Among the Negroes of N. C."

All the old officers were re-elected.

1924 - 1925

This was the 4th. time the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis had met in Corinth Church, Hickory, N. C. Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, president, presided.

The presence of Miss Mary Gerhart of Sendai, Japan and the letters of greeting from the president of G. S. Society, from the President of Potomac Synod, from the Secretary of G. M. G. and Mission Band, and from the Field Secretary gave evidence that the Society had taken its place in line with the other Classical Societies of General Synod Society.

Since the last meeting the name Young Woman's Auxiliaries had been changed to Girl's Missionary Guild.

Rev. Shuford Peeler appeared before the convention and asked the Society to consider the need of Catawba College (the college had been re-located at Salisbury in 1923).

Before the convention closed the following resolution was adopted: "In view of the necessity of the continuation of Catawba College for the future growth of the Reformed Church in the South, we recommend that the Classical Society raise at least $1,000.00 per year for the next five years for Catawba College, which would amount to approximately ten cents per head per month for members of the W. M. S. and G. M. G. and five cents per head per month for members of the M. B. This sum to be raised as the local societies see fit."

Three Missionary Institutes had been held within the bounds of the Classis. These educational institutes have come to mean much to the women and girls.

The total Thank Offering was $1,869.55; total amount of budget—$1,738.13.

It was decided to pay the traveling expenses of the Classical Secretary of G. M. G. and Mission Band when called upon to organize new societies.

1925 - 1926

In the year 1925, First, Greensboro was host to W. M. S. Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, president, ably presided. Other officers present were Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad, vice-president; Mrs. C. C. Bost, recording secretary; Mrs. Banks J. Peeler, corresponding secretary; Mrs. G. T. Crowell, treasurer.

MRS. W. H. CAUSEY
Winston-Salem
President 1935

MRS. A. A. SHUFORD,
First President of Corinth W.
M. S. of Hickory, N. C.

MRS. GEORGE HARVEY
GEITNER
Who Was Treasurer of Corinth
W. M. S. for 38 Years

MRS. ALICE INGOLD MUR-
RILL WHITENER
First Recording Secretary

Reference was made to the splendid gift of $25,000.00 by the W. M. S. of G. S. Thank Offering department for a Girl's Dormitory at Catawba College. Reference was also made that Mrs. C. C. Bost, a member of the cabinet of the W. M. S. of G. S. had been instrumental in securing this gift. The convention rose in recognition. Rev. Shuford thanked the department and asked for an additional $15,000.00 to complete the building (Zartman Hall) named in memory of the 1st. Thank Offering Secretary of General Synodical.

A church building fund of $500.00, started the second year of the organization, was completed this year.

Another interesting feature of the meeting was a delightful banquet, held in the hut in charge of Mrs. H. L. Misenheimer, Secretary of Girl's Missionary Guild. 125 delegates and friends surrounded a long table decorated in G. M. G. and M. B. colors. A very interesting program was rendered.

Miss Alliene Dechant of Hanover, Pa., who had recently returned from China, was a most interesting guest speaker. Dr. J. C. Leonard, at that time president of General Synod, made an interesting address on "Home Missions".

1926 - 1927

The thirtieth meeting of the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis convened at Bethel (Bear Creek), Stanly County. Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, president, efficiently presided.

The Summer Missionary Conference at Catawba College and the three educational institutes held yearly in the three well defined sections of the state, were now well established and largely attended. Often teachers and speakers were chosen from General Synod and at other times leaders were chosen from the workers in N. C. Classis.

The conference and the institutes afforded a splendid opportunity for the secretary of literature to get her books and help before the people.

Mrs. Elmer Hoke gave a splendid report of Catawba College, the laying of the corner stone of Elizabeth Conrad Zartman Hall, June 6, 1925, and its dedication, October 15th, of the same year. She spoke in highest terms of the money—$1,000.00 each year for 5 years—pledged by the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis.

The departmental secretaries reported progress in their various fields. Without the help of these faithful secretaries the task of running the Society would be much more difficult. Secretary of Literature, Mrs. H. A. Welker; Secretary of Thank Offering, Mrs. Shuford Peeler; Secretary of Life Members and Members in Memoriam, Mrs. J. C. Leonard; Secretary of Organization, Mrs. John W. Hedrick; Secretary of Temperance, Mrs. K. A. Ling; Secretary of Stewardship, Mrs. C. C. Wagoner; Secretary of G. M. G., Mrs. H. L. Misenheimer; Secretary of Mission Band, Miss Mildred Suther.

1927 - 1928

In Shiloh Church, Faith, Rev. J. D. Andrews, pastor, Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, rounding out her sixth year as president, called to order

the thirty-first session of the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis.

As usual, quite a number of ministers were present. The ministers of N. C. Classis have always manifested the deepest interest in the woman's work.

It seemed quite fitting that Mrs. J. C. Leonard, secretary of Life Members and Members in Memoriam, should in well chosen words, present Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, our President, with a certificate of membership in the W. M. S. of General Synod.

A church building fund of $500.00 which had been completed the previous year, was reported loaned to W. M. S. of Trinity, Concord. The treasurer's report showed a total disbursement during the year of $6,193.44 with a small balance in the treasury. This amount was over and above the $500.00 church building fund.

The Society still upholding temperance listened to an earnest appeal from Mrs. James A. Shuford, Secretary of Temperance. She urged the women to meet the ten points in the "Temperance Test."

The Secretary of Stewardship reported a gain of 28 tithers. Mrs. H. A. Welker, secretary of Literature, presented a report which showed that something really worthwhile was being accomplished by placing good literature before the women.

A new constitution was presented, considered and adopted. By vote it was decided that the contingent be based on 20 cents per member instead of $5.00 per Society per year.

A resolution was adopted urging the women of the Reformed Church to guard more carefully the influence of home life.

For a number of reasons a clause in the new constitution was waived and Mrs. Lee A. Peeler was elected president for her seventh year.

1928 - 1929

The annual convention of the W. M. S. met in its thirty-second year at Grace Church, Newton, N. C. Rev. C. C. Wagoner, Pastor.

A beautiful custom of honoring an outstanding worker each year with a membership certificate of the W. M. S. of General Synod,

This year, the first President, Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad, because of her earnest devotion and self-sacrificing work, was chosen for this honor.

The Secretary of Life Members and Members in Memoriam conducted a most impressive memorial service—the first to be held —A pause was made in the routine of business while the names of dear departed members were recalled. A memorial wreath was made of the white flowers offered as a tribute to each name. The completed wreath was presented to Dr. Clarence Clapp to be placed on the grave of his distinguished father, the Reverend J. C. Clapp, D. D.

A recognition service for W. M. S. and G. M .G. attaining the Standard of Excellence was another feature brought in to stimulate and encourage. The W. M. S. of Corinth, Hickory, the W.

M. S. from First, High Point, and the G. M. G. of Newton attained all points. Rev. W. C. Lyerly had charge of this service.

Mrs. C. C. Bost was elected President; Mrs. Edgar Whitener, Vice-President. Other officers remained the same as last year.

1929 - 1930

For the second time the Society was meeting in the busy growing town of High Point. Mrs. C. C. Bost, President, graciously presided.

The status of the work is as follows: Number of W. M. S.—36, with a membership of 945; Number of G. M. G.—20, with a membership of 344; Number of M. B.—25, with a membership of 517.

The outstanding features of this meeting were the completion of $5,000.00 Fund for Catawba College, and the completion of the $500.00 Alice Ingold Murrill Whitener Church Building Fund. Rev. Shuford Peeler accepted by letter the former while Dr. J. C. Leonard, in person, accepted the latter in behalf of the Home Mission Board. The Treasury also handled the David Levi and Florence Sloop Correll Church Building Fund for Home Mission Board.

Dr. Elmer R. Hoke, president of Catawba College, delighted the convention with his plans and ambitions for Catawba College.

It was decided to endeavor to raise for one year fifty cents per member toward a Scholarship Fund for worthy girls seeking an education for full time Christian service. This fund is being raised by the Potomac Synod Society.

The Girl's Missionary Guild reported good work under the capable leadership of Mrs. H. L. Misenheimer.

For the ensuing year Mrs. Edgar Whitener was elected President; Mrs. C. C. Bost, Vice-President; Miss Mildred Suther, Recording Secretary; Mrs. W. C. Lyerly, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. G. T. Crowell, Treasurer. An enrollment Clerk was appointed. Much time now used in calling the roll could be devoted to business. Miss Rebecca Messimer, a returned Missionary from China, delighted the convention with the account of her work with the girls of China.

1930 - 1931

For the second time the Annual Convention of the W. M. S. was held in Mt. Zion Church, China Grove. J. H. Keller, Pastor. The President, Mrs. Edgar Whitener, efficiently presided.

For her long and faithful service as Treasurer, Mrs. G. T. Crowell was awarded a fitting tribute and a gift of money.

The yearly dues as handed down by General Synod is $1.85 per member. There was a refund of $189.19 from the Catawba College Fund. Of this a gift of $100.00 was given to the Nazareth Orphan Home and the balance left on interest.

The convention was favored with an excellent address by Miss Augusta Lantz, Dean of Women at Catawba College, on the subject, "Our Girls at Catawba College."

The name of Mrs. C. E. Hiatt, wife of Rev. C. E. Hiatt, headed a long list of our beloved dead, in whose memory a beautiful memorial service was conducted. The memory of each one is held in sacred remembrance. These flowers were then presented to Mrs. J. P. Lina to be placed on the grave of her father, Rev. Anthony Shulenberger, once Pastor of Mt. Zion Church.

The Secretaries in general reported a forward step. The Literature Secretary reported increased interest in the purchase of books offered and the helpful leaflets used in the locals. Cheering reports came from the M. B. and G. M. G. leaders. The Secretary of Temperance noted that Christian Citizenship is to be the new name of this department and made reference to the new Christian Citizenship Packet. The Secretary of Stewardship hopefully noted a small increase over last year's report.

In 1929 the total amount raised was $6,717.72, in 1930 the total amount raised was $5,586.16. This was a note of discouragement. Was it because of the financial depression or a lack of Christian Zeal?

1931 - 1932

For the second time the W. M. S. met in Zion Church, Lenoir, Rev. John C. Peeler, Pastor. Mrs. Edgar Whitener, president, presided.

The three Institutes held in the fall were largely attended. The ladies look forward to these meetings with deepest interest. These Institutes are solely for spiritual uplift.

Mrs. John Ingle, one of the charter members and widow of Rev. John Ingle, was made a life member of the N. C. Classical by the local society of Zion, Lenoir.

Twenty-two G. M. G. locals were reported with a membership of 350 members. These girls have helped the Orphans, supplied needy families with food and clothing, sent six treasure chests to Phillipines and sent gifts to the Missionaries. 21 Mission Bands with a membership of 442 members was reported. These children delight in doing things for the Orphans and the Church. The greatest need at present is the proper leadership.

The Secretary of Literature, Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, made a splendid report. 86 women earned diplomas; 26 G. M. G. girls earned diplomas.

Rev. W. H. McNairy presented the needs of the Orphan Home. The president encouraged the members to continue providing money for kitchen and dining room equipment at the Nazareth Home.

Dr. and Mrs. A. K. Fause of Catawba College, added much to the meeting by their splendid addresses.

The W. M. S. of N. C. Classis feels deeply the loss by death, during the year of Dr. Elmer R. Hoke, President of Catawba College.

A beautiful recognition service, for the societies who had attained all points on the Standard of Excellence, had been prepared by Mrs. H. L. Misenheimer. This service was very effective.

JETTIE ABERNETHY
LYERLY
President of Corinth W. M. S.
Hickory, N. C.

MRS. R. A. ROBINSON,
Charlotte, Girls' Missionary
Guild Secretary

MRS. R. E. PATTERSON,
Rockwell, Chairman Historical
Committee, Corresponding Sec-
retary 12 Years

MRS. A. C. PEELER,
Winston-Salem, Recording Sec-
retary 1936

The following societies attained all points: W. M. S. Trinity, Concord; Grace, Newton; Mt. Zion, China Grove; G. M. G., St. Paul's South Fork Charge; Bethel South Fork Charge; Bethel (Bear Creek); First, Greensboro; First, Lexington.

1932 - 1933

The First Church, Winston-Salem and Slatteral Memorial Church were host to the 36th. annual meeting of the N. C. Classical. Mrs. C. C. Wagoner, President, was prevented from being present by severe illness. Mrs. C. C. Bost, second Vice-President presided over the cabinet meeting and opened the first session on the opening day.

Special prayer was offered for Mrs. Wagoner's recovery. In recognition of her service she was made a Life Member of General Synod. This was planned by the Secretary of Life Members, Mrs. J. C. Leonard.

The Secretary of Membership, Mrs. John W. Hedrick, reported a small loss of members in W. M. S.; G. M. G. and Mission Band. Could the national depression through which the whole country had recently passed be responsible for this loss of members?

Mrs. J. P. Linn, First Vice-President presided over the second session. Secretary of Literature, Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, declared that greater interest in Mission Study Classes, reading courses and the World's Day of Prayer was being manifested each year by all three organizations.

Mrs. Edgar Whitener's project for the Nazareth Orphan Home—the plan of gathering Octagon Coupons—for the purpose of purchasing silverware for the dining room equipment for the kitchen and a laundry building was ordered continued for another year or until the project was completed.

The second day's meeting was held in Slatteral Memorial Church with a splendid attendance. Midday lunches served by both churches combined, proved to be a delightful part of the program.

The highlights of the meeting were the splendid addresses. The inspirational address of Bishop Howard Rondthaler on "Service Giving"; the masterful address on "Temperance" by Rev. W. C. Lyerly; the vivid picture of "Conditions Facing Our Work in China and Japan", given in a most interesting manner by Mrs. A. K. Faust, one who has had many years of service in Japan, the presentation of Dr. Howard R. Omwake, newly elected President of Catawba College, who brought greetings and made helpful observations.

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, First Vice-President, Mrs. C. C. Wagoner; Second Vice-President, Mrs. J. P. Linn; Recording Secretary, Mrs. D. R. Janas; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. S. E. Shook; Treasurer, Mrs. G. T. Crowell.

With the First Church, Salisbury, the 36th Annual W. M. S. Meeting of N. C. Classis was held April 5th. and 6th., 1933. Rev. George T. Fitz, Pastor. Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, President graciously presiding. Mrs. M. C. M. Barger extended a welcome from the local church and town. Mrs. J. L. Morgan brought greetings from the United Lutheran Church.

A special feature of this meeting was the presence of so many returned Missionaries. Rev. and Mrs. Frank L. Fesperman from Sendai, Japan. Mrs. L. Braum, a returned missionary from China, serving in the Baptist Church. Dr. and Mrs. A. K. Faust, who spent 30 years in Japan. Rev. and Mrs. Fesperman, Mrs. Braum and Dr. Faust added much to the interest of the meeting by their splendid addresses.

At the close of the first session, all delegates and visitors were happy to attend a delightful Tea given at the President's Home on the Catawba College Campus, by Dr. and Mrs. Howard R. Omwake.

An unusual feature of this second day meeting was the rendering of two well loved spirituals by a representative of Livingstone College. (Colored College of Salisbury). This was followed by a splendid address on "Interracial Co-operation" by Mrs. Rose Aggrey, supervisor of colored schools in Salisbury and Rowan County and wife of a former President of the College.

The departmental secretaries showed a small loss, a natural reaction following the economic depression of 1930. The Secretary of Life Members presented to the convention Mrs. John Ingle, widow of the late Rev. Ingle and the oldest living member who was present when the N. C. Classical Society was organized in 1897. Mrs. Ingle was made a Life Member of W. M. S. of G. S. by the locals. Mrs. Ingle is accredited with outstanding pioneer work at Mt. Bethel Mission, once a mission point in the Reformed Church at Blowing Rock.

The Convention went on record as standing square for prohibition and against girls and women smoking.

Mrs. Edgar Whitener, Secretary of Orphan Home Project reported $390.77 had been received through the collecting and redeeming of Octagon Soap Coupons. With this money had been purchased 726 pieces of crockery and 426 pieces of 1847 Roger's Silver for the Nazareth Orphan Home.

The meeting closed with a presentation of a pageant, "As Told by Father Time," written by Mrs. C. C. Bost and given by various members of the Society. This was a historical review of the 36 years of organized missionary work in North Carolina. Written in three episodes—the past—present and the future. This was immensely enjoyed by all.

Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Lee A. Peeler; First Vice-President, Mrs. C. C. Bost; Second Vice-President, Mrs. J. P. Linn; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Donald Jones; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Daisy Fisher Patterson; Treasurer, Mrs. G. T. Crowell; Editor of Woman's Column, Mrs. C. C. Wagoner.

1934 - 1935

First Lexington Church was hostess to the sessions of the W. M. S. in 1934. Dr. J. C. Leonard, Pastor.

All the 36 Societies reported this year. 19 Societies showed gains during the year. Corinth, Hickory, leading with 12 members. Two new Societies were organized during the year. The total membership 1,051. One new G. M. G. was organized during the year. This new organization brought the number up to 18 with a membership of 267. Three new Mission Bands have been added to the ranks, making 17 in number.

At the cabinet meeting it was decided to challenge each W. M. S. and G. M. G. member to pay 15c per member by September in order to complete a Church Building Fund. This Fund was presented by the President, Mrs. Lee A. Peeler as a "Love Gift" to the 20th. anniversary of Potomac Synod which met at York, Pa., 1934. This Fund was named Emma Ingold Bost Church Building Fund.

Mrs. C. C. Bost presented a W. M. S. of General Synod membership certificate to Mrs. Daisy Fisher Patterson, given by the local Societies.

Mrs. Edgar presented the needs of the Nazareth Orphan Home. A total of $418.00 was pledged from the floor of the convention for the badly needed laundry. The societies were asked to continue playing Santa Claus to the Orphan children at Christmas time.

One of the delightful features of this meeting was the "Fellowship Banquet", held in the Social Hall of the S. S. Building. Miss Mildred Suther, G. M. G. Secretary charmingly presided.

Three W. M. S. locals, one G. M. G. and one M. B. attained all the points on the Standard of Excellence.

The guest speakers contributed splendidly to the profit and interest of the convention. These speakers were Mrs. A. K. Faust, Mrs. Milton Braum, Miss Myrtle McDaniels and the Rev. Wm. A. Lambeth, D. D.

Mrs. C. C. Bost was made president Emeritus. All old officers were re-elected.

1935 - 1936

The W. M. S. met April, 1935 in the splendid new Trinity Reformed Church, Concord, Rev. H. C. Kellermeyer, Pastor.

This was perhaps the largest attended convention in the history of the society. Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, President, presiding. An interesting feature about this meeting was the fact that Mrs. Lee A. Peeler was rounding out twenty years of executive service in the W. M. S. She was presented with a lovely corsage and a book, likewise. Mrs. G. T. Crowell of Trinity, Concord, for such a long time the very efficient Treasurer of N. C. Classical was given a beautiful corsage by her own local group. Truly it can be said, both of these women made a long and splendid contribution to the Woman's Missionary Society of N. C. Classis.

Rev. H. A. Dewald of the Evangelical Church of Atlanta, Ga. was an invited guest speaker. For many of the members this was their first opportunity to see and hear one of the Evangelical branch of the merged church.

It was a delight to have Rev. and Mrs. Sterling Whitener, one of our own foreign Missionaries, in attendance. Rev. Walter H. Goodman, Presbyterian minister from Kannapolis, was another guest speaker.

All officers and departmental Secretaries made splendid reports of work accomplished during the year. The Treasurer's receipts for the year were $6,697.80, disbursements $6,378.61. Mrs. Edgar Whitener, Orphan Home Project Secretary reported $1,-447.97 spent for Laundry Building and Equipment at the Nazareth Orphan Home. She further asked each local to contribute $5.00 during the year for sewing machines, chairs, books for the library and linens.

Out of the 1102 members of the W. M. S.: 724 members earned in the reading course, 309 diplomas, 292 seals. Out of 248 G. M. G. members, 201 members earned 54 diplomas and 33 seals.

10 Classical Life Memberships and 3 Synodical Life Memberships were reported by the Secretary of Life Members.

Secretary of Mission Bands reported a membership of 524, an increase over last year of 84. The W. M. S. gave a Thank Offering of $1,328.61.

Officers elected: President Emeritus, Mrs. C. C. Bost; President, Mrs. W. H. Causey; First Vice-President, Mrs. A. M. Crowell; Second Vice-President, Mrs. J. W. Self; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Ray Holshouser; Corresponding and Statistical Secretary, Mrs. Daisy Fisher Patterson; Treasurer, Mrs. G. T. Crowell and Editor of Woman's Column, Mrs. C. C. Wagoner.

1936 - 1937

The fortieth anniversary meeting of the W. M. S. convened in First Church, Burlington, April 1st. and 2nd., 1936. This meeting was of unusual interest because plans for the merging of the W. M. S. of General Synod of the R. group and the Woman's Union of the E. group were being made by the higher bodies of the church. Miss Carrie M. Kerchner, Ex. Secretary of the W. M. S. of General Synod was present, for part of the sessions and was very helpful in explaining the difficulties confronting the merging societies.

The principal speaker of the convention was Mrs. Milton Lang of the E. group, a returned Missionary to India. She made a lasting impression on the N. C. women by her interesting addresses and her pleasing personality.

All departmental secretaries made concise and interesting reports. All showed small gains. Surely no one could doubt that the Missionary interest in our church is largely due to the Classical Society. This information and interest is made possible by the earnest efforts and accomplishments of the wide awake de-

partmental Secretaries. They really deserve splendid commendation.

The G. M. G. Fellowship dinner in charge of Miss Mildred Suther was a delightful evening for all present. Surely the G. M. G. girls should be commended for staging such worthwhile programs. Following the dinner was an evening program in charge of Mrs. Elizabeth Leonard Angell, Secretary of G. M. G.

Some of the activities in the local groups during the year have been: A free-will Christmas gift to our two foreign Missionaries, Mrs. Sterling Whiterer in China and Mrs. Frank L. Fesperman in Japan: Each local society planning Santa Claus to all the children in the Orphan Home. The raising of the "Love Gift" pertaining to the 50th Anniversary of the W. M. S. of General Synod has not been forgotten by our women.

Three Synodical Life Memberships and 4 N. C. Classical Memberships. Mrs. J. P. Linn was made a Life Member of General Synod. Mrs. Linn was present, as a bride, at the organization of the classical meeting in 1897.

On account of the excessive rains the pilgrimage was canceled to the historic Mt. Hope Church, 15 miles distant, where the school house, near by the church the Classical Society was organized in 1897.

Of great interest to our women was the attendance at the three Fall Institutes of Mrs. F. W. Leich, President of W. M. S. of General Synod and Mrs. Elsa Reichenbach of the E. group.

The meeting closed with a Historical Pageant of this Society, written by Mrs. C. C. Bost and Mrs. Lee A. Peeler.

1937 - 1938

In 1937 the Annual Convention of the W. M. S. was held in the handsome Corinth Church, Hickory. Mrs. W. H. Causey presided.

A large attendance participated and enjoyed this splendidly arranged meeting. The efficient local committee had planned well for the comfort of the delegates. The cabinet members were entertained at Hotel Hickory. The G. M. G. Banquet held at Hotel Hickory was a delightful arrangement.

The guest speaker was Mrs. Sigismund Laky, wife of a Hungarian Pastor of Buffalo, N. Y. She captivated every one with her pleasing personality and held all spell bound by her interesting addresses. Following a well-planned itinerary Mrs. Laky was able to address several local congregations where she was well received.

All officers and departmental Secretaries reported all obligations paid in full, the number of locals have grown to 40. One new organization reported this year with a membership of 1183. 25 Mission Bands with an enrollment of 440. 21 G. M. G. locals with 195 members.

The T. O. Secretary reported a 12% gain over last year. The total Thank Offering was $1,916.57. This gain was a tribute to the earnest Thank Offering Secretary, Mrs. Banks J. Peeler.

Two Life Memberships in G. S. and 17 N. C. Classical memberships were reported by the energetic Secretary, Mrs. J. H. Allen.

The Christmas letters sent out by the children of Nazareth Home were answered by the local groups as well as the Christmas gifts to the two foreign Missionaries. The "Love Gift" which is to be presented to the 50th. Anniversary of G. S. from the N. C. Classical is continually being emphasised.

The three Educational Institutes held during October with Miss Ruth Heinmiller as representative of the General Synod, were of unusual interest and largely attended.

The outstanding project for 1937 was refurnishing the boy's dormitory at Nazareth Home.

A fiftieth Anniversary Pageant, arranged by Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, the efficient Secretary of Literature, was beautifully rendered, closing with a candle light service in which more than 50 persons took part.

Mrs. J. H. Shuford of Hickory and Mrs. L. O. Carbough of Rockwell, added much to the meeting with their lovely solos.

1938 - 1939

The convention for 1938 was held April 6 and 7 at First Church, Landis, with a large and interesting attendance. The program was a full one.

Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer, of Philadelphia, Secretary of the Home Mission Board, was a guest speaker at the evening meeting. Dr. Schaeffer, who is a favorite in North Carolina was heard by a large and appreciative audience.

Other visiting speakers were Mrs. Raymond Binford of Guilford College, speaker at the G. M. G. Banquet held at the High School Building and Mrs. J. C. Poole of Kannapolis, a returned missionary of the Methodist Church. Mrs. Poole spoke on "Africa". These interesting guest speakers added much to the full program.

The treasurer reported that $1,262.14 had been raised to refurnish the Lyerly Building for Boys at the Nazareth Orphan Home. $989.34 was spent in completely refurnishing the boys building.

An overture from Board of Nazareth Orphan Home, that the W. M. S. be challenged to re-floor, repaint and partially refurnish the first floor of the Payne Building for Girls at the Orphan Home. After much discussion this challenge was accepted. Each member was asked to contribute $1.50 during the year for this project. The work was placed in the hands of a committee, working with a commission from Board of Managers of Orphan Home.

It was with genuine regret that Mrs. G. T. Crowell, the very capable Treasurer of N. C. Classical for 32 years, found it necessary to give up the work. She was called to the floor and was given a small remembrance.

The Classical visitors appointed by the president, reported all locals visited during the year.

The Membership Secretary reported two new locals organized. 68 new members were reported. Life Member Secretary reported 18 Classical life members and 8 membership of General Synod.

$616.83 total amount of "Love Gift" offered at the 50th Anniversary of G. S. This fund was divided into 3 parts. One-third to the W. M. S. of Gen. S. for the $20,000.00 club. One-third to Educational Loan Fund of N. C. Foreign Missionaries' children. The other third to Educational Loan Fund for N. C. graduates of Nazareth Orphan Home. Delegates elected to attend the 50th. Anniversary of the W. M. S. of G. Synod in Akron, Ohio: President Mrs. W. H. Causey, Mrs. W. C. Lyerly, Mrs. Daisy Fisher Patterson, Miss Nellie Work, G. M. G., and Mrs. A. D. Burkett for M. B.

The three Institutes were well attended. Miss Greta P. Hinkle was guest speaker at the Institutes. It was with keen regret the N. C. Classical gave up Mrs. Lee A. Peeler, a splendid leader and worker to Virginia Classis. Virginia's gain is North Carolina's loss.

1939 - 1940

Beulah and Pilgrim Churches, Upper Davidson Charge, were host to the W. M. S. Convention April 12 and 13, 1939. A large crowd was in attendance.

Speakers for the occasion were Bishop J. K. Pfohl and Mrs. Pfohl of the Moravian Church, Winston-Salem. Miss Dorothy Strauss, a converted Jewish, of Charlotte. The addresses were very fine. Miss Strauss' address showed us the working of the Jewish mind in accepting Christianity.

Miss Carrie M. Kerschner, Ex. Secretary of General Synod Society was a welcome visitor through the business sessions. Miss Kerschner explained in detail the new set-up for the Woman's Guild which goes into effect with the completion of the Merger of the Evangelical and the Reformed denominations. The Merger meeting to be held November 1, 2, and 3 was the most interesting topic of discussion. A special committee nominated the following delegates: Mesdames W. H. Causey, H. S. Barrier, Roxie Koontz, A. M. Crowell, John Troxler, K. A. Ling, R. C. Whisnant, Howard Omwake and John S. Rowe.

The Secretary of Organization and Membership reported two new local W. M. S. Faith, Brookford; and First, Asheboro. This brings the number of Societies to 45 locals, with a membership of 1,308.

The Thank Offering collections for the year totals $1,933.17, W. M. S. Thank Offering $1,675.81, G. M. G. $151.58, Mission Band $105.78.

The Secretary of Life Members reported 4 Life Members to General Synod and 20 Classical Life Members.

The Literature, Stewardship, and Christian Citizenship Secretaries reported interesting progress in their various departments.

The Secretary of Orphan Home reported the big project of re-flooring, re-decorating and partially re-furnishing the Payne Building for Girls at Nazareth Orphan Home, begun in 1938, had been completed. The report follows: Total repairs $1,772.28. This left a balance of $276.01 for refurnishing. As a result of a circular letter sent to the locals an additional $171.13 together

with bed linens, towels, water pitchers, water glasses, curtains, etc. were received. Several rooms were furnished by individuals and friends. This is one of the really big projects the W. M. S. has put across.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the very delightful 25th Anniversary Tea arranged by Secretary of G. M. G., Mrs. Russel Robinson and Mrs. W. H. Causey and served by the G. M. G. Girls to all members and friends of the convention.

Certainly we can not give too much credit to the G. M. G. Girls and their earnest leaders for their splendid work. This year the Guild Organization graduated 20 of their members to W. M. S. These girls will be our future leaders.

Mrs. Jake S. Geitner, the energetic M. B. Secretary reported 22 Bands with a membership of 395 members. These Children are to be congratulated for nobly carrying on their part of the Missionary Work.

Mrs. W. H. Causey, president, presided over all sessions in her usual capable and efficient manner.

All other officers were asked to serve until the disbanding of the W. M. S. First Vice-President, Mrs. Smith Barrier; Second Vice-President, Mrs. H. D. Allhouse; Recording Secretary, Mrs. A. C. Peeler; Cor. Secretary, Mrs. Robert Patterson; Treasurer, Miss Mildred Suther; Historian, Mrs. C. C. Bost.

1940 - 1941

The 44th. Annual Meeting of the W. M. S. met in Grace, Newton and Trinity, Conover, respectively, April 9 and 10, 1940. Mrs. W. H. Causey, president, presided.

Rev. Ben Stucki, superintendent of the Indian Mission School, Nellsville, Wisconsin, accompanied with Mrs. Stucki, was a guest speaker. From our own state Rev. Frank L. Fesperman, one of the North Carolina Foreign Missionaries, was a speaker as was Mr. O. M. Stoudt, teacher in Sendai College, Japan. Dr. W. H. Causey from Winston-Salem was also an interesting speaker.

These addresses were very fine and claimed the closest attention of the convention.

Aside from the addresses the convention enjoyed the picture, "Our Master's Voice" so splendidly commented upon by Rev. Walter C. Pugh.

The departmental secretaries all reported gains over last year. Thank Offering $2,180.74. Of this amount the W. M. S. contributed $1,862.17.

G. M. G. contributed $193.67. M. B. gave $124.90.

The project for the year was helping First, Asheboro. Each of the 1,355 members of the W. M. S. was asked to contribute $1.00 per member. This was not raised in full. At the time of the 1940 meeting it was decided to complete this project during 1940-1941.

21 Life Members of the N. C. Classical and 2 memberships of General Synod were reported by the Secretary of Life Members.

45 local W. M. S. with a membership of 1,355. 26 G. M. G.

with a membership of 346. Four new organizations were reported. 19 Mission Bands with 382 members. One new organization.

The three Educational Institutes for the women and the one for the G. M. G. members were well attended. Mrs. Charles Rockel was the visiting speaker. Every one enjoyed hearing Mrs. Rockel.

We were urged to observe the World Day of Prayer and Prayer for Missions on Ascensions' Day.

Likewise, we were encouraged to continue playing Santa Claus to the children of Nazareth Home and to send Mother's Day Cards and Christmas Gifts to the N. C. Foreign Missionaries.

The delegates to the Merger meeting were presented to the convention, each told something of her impressions of this epoch meeting. Mrs. John S. Rowe of Hickory made the official report on the Merger Meeting. It was an intensely interesting report.

At this time reports are not yet available for this year's work. However, these findings will be printed in the 1941 minutes.

During the past year the grim reaper of Death has taken a toll of two of our most faithful workers and most interested women. In June Mrs. Shuford Peeler, for a number of years a most earnest Thank Offering Secretary was called to her eternal reward. She was intensely interested in all phases of our Missionary activities.

It is with deep sorrow we record the death on _____ of Mrs. G. T. Crowell, a charter member of the organization and the very efficient Treasurer of the W. M. S. of North Carolina Classis for thirty-one years.

The cabinet personnel who have labored diligently and faithfully to bring the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis to a successful close are: Mrs. W. H. Causey, President; Mrs. Smith Barrier, Vice-President; Mrs. H. D. Althouse, 2nd Vice-President; Mrs. A. C. Peeler, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Daisy Fisher Patterson, Corresponding and Statistical Secretary; Miss Mildred O. Suther, Treasurer; Mrs. C. C. Bost, Historian; Mrs. Howard R. Omwake, Secretary of Literature; Mrs. Banks J. Peeler, Secretary of Thank Offering; Mrs. J. H. Allen, Secretary of Life Members and Members in Memoriam; Mrs. J. Thomas Leonard, Secretary of Christian Citizenship; Mrs. John W. Hedrick, Secretary of Organization and Membership; Mrs. Roy C. Whisenhut, Secretary of Stewardship; Mrs. Robert E. Leonard, Secretary of Orphan Home Project; Mrs. R. A. Robinson, Secretary of G. M. G.; Mrs. John Causey, Secretary of Mission Band; Mrs. K. A. Link, Editor of the Woman's Column. We sincerely hope to close the year and for that matter, the forty-four years of existence of the W. M. S. of N. C. Classis in the Reformed Church with all obligations fully met.

* * * * *

Thus closes the record of our forty-four years. It is but a brief outline. There is a great unseen volume that relates the story of loving sacrifice and labor of the many women and girls in

all parts of our beloved southern state. These good servants from Eastern, Central and Western sections have had a glorious part to fulfill. Every member of the Woman's Missionary Society of North Carolina Classis has had a very definite service to render. All have labored for our organization in a most wonderful way. Even so, comes the realization that many opportunities for service have been lost. Let us hope that the new organization of the Woman's Guild, into which we are about to merge, may witness an even more glorious outpouring of devotion and service from all sections of the Church.

Mrs. C. C. Bost, a most beloved woman, who served as President of the W. M. S. for a long period of years and who has only missed attending three annual meetings during the forty-four years, has written a poem, "Valedictory". With her permission we are using this poem as our closing thought.

1897 1941

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF
NORTH CAROLINA CLASSIS

* * * *

VALEDICTORY

This meeting marks the closing of forty-four busy years,
Years crowded with happiness mingled with tears;
Each year brought new faces, there were new hands to clasp,
As we met at new churches old friends' hands to grasp.
To the W. M. S. N. C. Classis we bid a reluctant adieu;
We have loved you, we still love you, so faithful and true;
Of this love and loyalty we are come here to tell
To the great Women's Guild we love equally well.
There will be no sad ending a valedictory may bring,
We will go on rejoicing with brave hearts that sing,
And the love for each other will grow with the years;
We will help one another through smiles and through tears.
As the years pass before us, grown closer together,
We will meet in the Guild in all sorts of weather.
But whether the sun is shining or skies are overcast,
We will all meet together in a Great Guild at last.
In this day that is mingled with joy and with tears
We are not overwhelmed by our sorrows or fears;
With the future faced bravely we courageously tell
To the Guild and the Society, Hail! and Farewell!
'Til we meet in that fair land of Peace and of Love,
The House of Our Father in Heaven above.

—Emma Ingold Bost.

1897—North Carolina Classical Society, May 6, Mt. Hope Church, Greensboro, North Carolina. President, Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad.

1897—Woman's Missionary Society, May 8, Mt. Hope Church, Greensboro, North Carolina. President, Mrs. Jessie Welker Starr. Reorganized March 24, 1939. President, Mrs. Richard Shoffner.

1897—Ladies Aid and Missionary Society, Pilgrim Church, June 27, Lexington, North Carolina. President, Mrs. Ida Hedrick Conrad. Became Missionary November 5, 1916.

1897—Woman's Missionary Society, Grace (Lower Stone) Church, August 28, Rockwell, North Carolina. President, Miss Mattie Fisher.

1897—Woman's Missionary Society, Bethel (Bear Creek) Church, Sept. 1, Mt. Pleasant, North Carolina. President, Mrs. Luther H. Moose.

1892-1897—Woman's Missionary Society, Grace Church, Newton (The records bearing the exact date could not be found). 1917—Records show that the W. M. S. was re-organized April 1. President, Mrs. W. W. Rowe.

1897—Woman's Missionary Society, New Gilead Church, Cabarrus County, Sept. 26, Concord, North Carolina. President, Mrs. J. E. Misenheimer.

1897—Woman's Missionary Society, Trinity Church, Concord, North Carolina, Jan. 18. President, Mrs. Frances Lippard George.

1897—Ladies' Aid Society, Heidelberg, Thomasville, North Carolina. President, Mrs. Clarence Clapp.

1897—Ladies' Aid Society, Calvary Church, Emanuel Charge, Organized by Mrs. Clarence Clapp. 1907—Aid Society re-organized July 7, by Mrs. Irwin Ditzler. President, Mrs. Ditzler. 1938—Woman's Missionary Society organized, Calvary Church, Thomasville, Jan. 30. President, Mrs. C. C. Alexander.

1890—Society, Corinth, Hickory. President Mrs. A. A. Shuford.

1898—Ladies' Aid & Missionary Society, Corinth Church. Hickory, N. C., Jan. 12. President, Mrs. J. L. Murphy. 1901—Became Missionary. President, Mrs. C. C. Bost.

1898—Ladies' Aid & Missionary Society, Bethany Church, Crescent, June. President, Mrs. J. M. L. Lyerly. 1915—Became Missionary Society.

1898—Ladies' Aid & Missionary, Mt. Bethel, Blowing Rock, North Carolina. Mrs. Mary Ingle, President. (This Congregation was disbanded in 1921.)

1899—Ladies' Aid Society, St. Lukes Church, Rowan Co., Salisbury, R. F. D. 5. President, Mrs. Geo. D. Peeler. 1915—Became Aid & Missionary Society.

1899—Ladies' Aid Society, Shiloh Church, Faith, North Carolina, Sept. President, Mrs. P. A. Peeler. Became Missionary Society at a later date.

1899—Ladies' Aid & Missionary Society; 1st Church Burlington, North Carolina, Oct. 18. President, Mrs. Mable Welker Coble. 1916—Became a Missionary Society.

1900—Woman's Missionary Society, 1st Church, Salisbury. President, Mrs. Gurney Weber. 1901—Reorganized. President, Mrs. C. L. Emerson.

1900—St. Marks, Burlington sent reports to the Classical Meeting. 1927—Sept. 17, Ladies' Auxiliary. President, Mrs. J. D. Rumbley. 1928—W. M. S. organized.

1902—Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society, Ursinus Church, Rockwell. President, Mrs. C. H. Reidsel.

1902—Ladies' Aid Society, Bethany, Upper Davidson Charge, June 16. President, Mrs. Etta Dorsett Peeler. (This Society sent delegates and money to the Classical Society, (since 1909 has disbanded).

1904—Ladies' Aid & Missionary, Trinity, Conover, North Carolina. President, Mrs. R. E. Cline. 1926—Became W. M. S.

1904—Woman's Missionary Society, Zion, Lenoir, North Carolina, March. President, Mrs. W. H. McNairy.

1904—Ladies' Aid & Missionary Society, 1st Church, Greensboro, North Carolina, March. President, Mrs. C. W. Yost.

1905—Aid Society, Beulah Church, Davidson County, Lexington, North Carolina. 1929—Missionary and Aid Society, June. President, Mrs. Charlie Brinkley. 1929—Became W. M. S.

1905—Woman's Missionary Society, St. James Church, Mt. Pleasant, Jan. 7. President, Mrs. J. L. C. Miller.

1907—Daniel's Aid and Missionary Society. President, Mrs. W. S. Beck.

1907—Aid and Missionary, Bethel, South Fork Charge. President, Mrs. W. S. Beck. 1911—Disbanded.

1908—Aid Society, Mt. Zion Church, China Grove. President, Mrs. P. A. Correll, Sept. 1910—Name changed to Ladies' Aid & Missionary Society. 1912—Changed to Missionary Society.

1909—Aid and Missionary Society, St. Pauls, Newton, South Fork Charge. President, Mrs. W. S. Beck.

1911—Woman's Missionary Society, 1st, High Point, Nov. 5. Miss Sadie Farrington, President.

1911—Woman's Missionary Society, Bethel, High Point, Pres. Mrs. C. C. Wagoner. (This Church was disbanded in 1920).

1913—Woman's Missionary Society, 1st Church, Lexington, North Carolina, April 20. President, Mrs. J. Tilden Hedrick.

1914—Air and Missionary Society, Emanuel, Lincolnton, North Carolina, July 13. President, Mrs. W. H. McNairy.

1916—Woman's Missionary Society, St. Paul's Church, Newton, N. C., South Fork Charge, July. President, Mrs. H. A. Fesperman. Active for 9 years then was dormant until 1928, when it was reorganized.

1916—Woman's Missionary Society, 1st Church, Charlotte, North Carolina, April 2. President, Mrs. Shuford Peeler.

1916—Woman's Missionary Society, Schlatter Memorial, Winston-Salem, N. C. President, Mrs. H. A. M. Holshouser. Was inactive for a while. 1919—Reorganized.

1917—Ladies' Aid Society, 1st Church, Winston-Salem, N. C., March. President, Mrs. Addie Blair. 1933—Changed to Woman's Missionary Society, Nov. 15. President, Mrs. Esther Brown Stimpson.

1918—Young Woman's Missionary Society, Faith Church, Brookford, 19 members. 1940—Woman's Missionary Society, Feb. President, Mrs. J. Raymond Hollar.

1918—Woman's Missionary Society, 1st Landis Church, Feb. 23. President, Mrs. J. Preston Linn.

1919—Woman's Missionary Society, St. Paul's, Kannapolis Charge. Nov. 9. President, Mrs. Lee A. Peeler.

1919—Aid & Missionary Society, Mt. Hope, Faith Charge. President, Mrs. Mary Yost. 1937—Woman's Missionary Society, Jan. President, Mrs. W. M. McCombs.

1920—Woman's Missionary Society, St. John's Church, Kannapolis, Jan. 20. President, Mrs. Lee A. Peeler.

1921—Woman's Missionary Society, Emanuel Church. 1925—Aid Society, Emanuel Church, Emanuel Charge, Thomasville, North Carolina. 1939—Woman's Missionary Society, Jan. President, Mrs. Fred Bodenheimer.

1922—Woman's Missionary Society, 2nd Church, Lexington, North Carolina, August. President, Mrs. Pearl Harvey.

1926—Woman's Missionary Society, Hedrick's Grove Church, Lower Davidson Charge, August. President, Mrs. Grover Hedrick.

1927—Woman's Missionary Society, Boger Church, Bear Creek Charge, Rockwell, Route 1, Oct. 2. President, Mrs. B. E. Wilson.

1932—Woman's Missionary Society, Mt. Tabor Church, Lexington, North Carolina. President, Mrs. R. G. Everhart.

1933—Woman's Missionary Society, Beck's Church, Lexington, N. C., March 19. President, Mrs. Sam Tussey.

1933—Woman's Missionary Society, Brick's Church, Guilford County. President, Mrs. Boyd Isley.

1934—Woman's Missionary Society, Keller Church, Kannapolis Charge. President, Mrs. R. F. Cline.

1939—Woman's Missionary Society, 1st Church, Asheboro, May 4. President, Mrs. Ray Hull.

AID SOCIETIES PRIOR TO 1897

An account of the Aid Societies organized prior to 1897 will show how the time was ripe for the organization of a Woman's Missionary Society.

1885—Grace Church, Newton, North Carolina.
1886—Trinity Church, Concord, North Carolina.
1890—Memorial Church, Maiden, North Carolina.
1890—Corinth Church, Hickory, North Carolina.
1893—Bethany Church, Crescent, North Carolina.
1894—Trinity Church, Conover, North Carolina.

The work of the Women's Missionary Society and the Girl's Missionary Guild has been so closely related during the past years that the history of the W. M. S. would not be complete without some reference to the G. M. G

We pause in gratitude to the noble women of the past who had a vision of the need for missionary education for the young women of our church and who so courageously blazed the trail for us, and for you of the present who by your example have led us into broader fields of service in the work of the Kingdom and have inspired us to face new conditions and a changing world with courage and a stronger faith in God. For 25 years you, our mother organization, have been our inspiration and help. Many times we have faltered and became discouraged but always you have gone before beckoning us on to new and greater tasks.

Through your inspiration and encouragement we feel we have been able to help in many places both in the home land and across the seas.

The record of our achievements, our golden deeds, our sacrifices you have written in your hearts. You have guided hundreds of us in loving service for the Master.

The memory of our Silver Anniversary tea is still fresh and beautiful. We rejoice in the pride registered on your faces there as you joined us in our celebration.

A glorious era has come to a close—What of the future, the challenge of 1941?

We face the future with its responsibilities and tasks whatever they may be, unafraid. We cherish our record of the past, we pause in the present in appreciation, and move forward into the future with confidence and hope.

Sec. G. M. G.—Bliss Price Johnson.

Year	Membership	Total Receipts	Year	Membership	Total Receipts
1897	16 Registered Delegates	$ 8.00	1920	704	2,203.24
1898	148	67.33	1921	652	3,236.30
1899	131	93.35	1922	685	3,564.58
1900	246	160.66	1923	744	4,089.14
1901	209	137.27	1924	805	4,672.80
1902	188	134.06	1925	832	6,426.67
1903	201	135.75	1926	847	7,066.60
1904	180	115.50	1927	862	5,774.12
1905	220	125.75	1928	935	5,891.13
1906	277	150.00	1929	945	7,484.08
1907	267	156.55	1930	923	5,586.16
1908	318	174.45	1931	919	5,145.22
1909	321	160.00	1932	986	5,096.26
1910	320	178.98	1933	968	5,224.60
1911	321	185.95	1934	1054	5,366.29
1912	411	256.94	1935	1102	6,692.80
1913	439	282.60	1936	1131	5,513.83
1914	507	537.93	1937	1183	6,031.16
1915	463	348.75	1938	1259	7,776.46
1916	462	346.37	1939	1308	8,283.17
1917	478	728.24	1940	1355	7,324.00
1918	402	891.23	1941		7,007.21
1919	555	2,118.25			$132,941.73

Receipts Partially Itemized

$48,826.49 Budget Including W. M. S., G. M. & M. B.
40,800.70 T. O. Including W. M S., G. M. G. & M. B.
6,106.55 Nazareth Orphan's Home.
5,626.66 Catawba College.
1,200.24 Home Missions.
3,687.28 Foreign Missions.
1,400.00 Life Members & M. in M. to G. S.
975.00 Life Members & M. in M. to Classical.
314.50 Potomac Scholarship Fund.
1,274.46 Asheboro Mission.
430.48 Replacement of L. M. Fund G. S.
616.83 Love Gift.

Church Building Funds Given Through and by Classical Society

$500.00 The Alice Ingold Murrill Whitener.
500.00 The Emma Ingold Bost.
116.00 The Potomac Synod.
500.00 The David Levi & Florence Sloop Correll given by Mt. Zion, China Grove.
500.00 Given by First Church, Lexington.
500.00 Now Held by W. M. S.—given by Classical.
500.00 Shiogma Chapel, Japan, given by Mildred Suther.

Signed: Mildred Suther, Treas.